



Weekly Newsletter

27th November 2020

Time flies!

I can't believe that next week is December! It seems like it was only September just yesterday! Earlier in the week, we were pleased to share our Christmas events list. Despite Covid, we hope there is still a great amount of fun to be had by everyone. I am sure you will have noticed the beautiful tree on the corner of Coach Road. We are excited to add our school's decorations! We will be using Tapestry to share some of the children's Christmas highlights from the classes in the coming weeks - so keep your eyes peeled! Next week, our celebrations will begin with our English work being focused on popular Christmas adverts. We are all excited to share these with the children.

This week, we learnt that the current national lockdown will come to an end next week and our area will be placed in Tier 2. However, we must all continue to do all we can to keep everyone safe. The virus has not gone away, yet. With this in mind, I wanted to draw everyone's attention to the decision we have made on Christmas cards this year. We will only be handing out cards to children in their own bubble and these should be brought to school before the 14th December, to allow us to isolate them before handing out again. Thank you for another great Sleights week. Have a great weekend!

Scott Grason, Headteacher
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Christmas in the village

It is so lovely to see and hear about the efforts that the village is taking to celebrate Christmas this year. As well as the village tree, a team of knitters have been hard at work decorating. This morning, we have loved seeing Sandra, one of the villagers display her and her mum's knitted creations on the school railings. They have certainly launched the arrival of Christmas at Sleights and the children will love looking at them every day. Be sure to take a look!

In the classrooms this week

- There was a great deal of tasty fruit to enjoy this week in Explorers. The children have been enjoying the story of Handa's Surprise, which involves collecting and tasting different fruits. Everyone looked like they enjoyed some very delicious tastes! Elsewhere, the children have enjoyed playing with sand in the classroom, using a range of tools to make marks. There was lots of fun had by everyone!
- I was in lots of trouble earlier in the week with the Pioneers, who were cross because I opened the over door and let their gingerbread creations escape. Ooops! Unfortunately, this meant that the gingerbread people have been running around the school causing havoc and mischief. Luckily for us all, the Pioneers were on hand to investigate and explore where they had gone (including a visit to the forest). The children have been so enthused and engaged, which has been so lovely to see. I'm not sure they have quite forgiven me
- Despite only being Year 1, the children in Learners have been using a range of languages this week to help them answer the register. This has caused great excitement, as children have been finding out new ways to greet Mrs Brown at home! The children have also been working hard around school expanding their knowledge of physical and human features of our school site. Well done, Learners.
- The Adventurers have been studying Islam in RE this week and have been identifying features of a Mosque. The children did a great job at understanding and using some of the technical vocabulary and identifying these features. The children also enjoyed a computing session with Mrs Gurney earlier in the week, where they explored their 'digital footprint', with some very interesting discussions and ideas.
- We absolutely loved seeing the Discoverers back in school this week. They bounced up the path onto the playground with HUGE smiles. In English, the children have been looking at setting description, using exciting metaphors to help. Elsewhere, the children have enjoyed map work in geography and have been busy creating their own classroom maps, including a key and symbols for the physical objects. What a great first week back!
- The Leaders started the week outdoors. Each class in school has their own outdoor space they are responsible for, so the Leaders cleared and sorted theirs. They then made their way down to the forest to make their own jewellery. After investigating and finding where our Elder tree was, the children then hollowed out sticks to make bracelets and necklaces. Everyone made some great creations and were impressed with their final outcomes.

Year 6 SATS workshop

A big thank you to the families who were able to join us on Wednesday evening for our information evening about Year 6 SATs. If you missed the presentation, but would like to know more, please just get in touch.

Congratulations, Miss Idle!

This week, we are pleased to announce that, following a rigorous recruitment process, Miss Idle has been successfully appointed as our new Pre-School Leader. Miss Idle led the Pre-School for an acting period during Mrs Marsay's absence and we are excited to see her ideas develop in the coming months. A huge congratulations to Miss Idle!

ParentPay

Again, can I extend my thanks to you all for your brilliant support with ParentPay this week. We are now managing almost all payments via this system. This means we are all working hard to keep everyone safe, as well as hopefully making things much simpler for everyone at home too. Thank you.

If you have not yet activated your account, please have a look at this again for us. When trips are back up and running, we will be using ParentPay for consent from families, so it is important we have everyone signed up. It also makes paying for items here and there, such as our Christmas lunches or a new jumper so much easier. If you need any help from us with this, please just ask.

ParentPay snack orders

Just a reminder that we do need these orders for the full week by Monday at 9am please. Full weeks are Monday - Friday. A full order list is created for the full week after this time, so adding new items during the week can be tricky.

Flu Immunisation - Catch Up - DEADLINE COMING

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to rearrange a catch up session for any children who missed the flu immunisation programme. Please do take this opportunity up if, for whatever reason, you were unable to arrange the nasal spray earlier in the year.

The new date for flu immunisation is **10th December**. Families will need to give consent by **Tuesday 1st December** by visiting: <http://www.hdft.nhs.uk/fluconsent>. You will be asked for our school code, which is 121491.

Flu Immunisation - Feedback

We have been asked by the NHS to share details of a survey about the flu immunisation programme. Families are asked to follow the link here <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/J5298JJ> and give their views. Thank you.

Christmas Party Day - Monday 14th December

On our party day, all children are invited to join us for a lunch made up of:

A selection of sandwiches, sausages, pizza, carrot and cucumber bites, crisps, biscuits and ice sponge cake, with juice.

If your child usually has a packed lunch, but would like to enjoy the party lunch, **please add this to your basket on Parent Pay (you should see 'Christmas Party Lunch for Packed Lunches' as a payment item)**. If your child usually has a school dinner, there is no need to buy this item. For her ordering, Mrs Eglon needs to know numbers as soon as possible, please.

Christmas Lunch Day - Wednesday 16th December

The whole school will enjoy their Christmas lunch this year on Wednesday 16th December. This year's festive menu is made up of:

Roast Turkey with Gorgeous Gravy, Crackers Christmas Chipolatas, Santa's sage and onion stuffing, Mrs Claus' Crispy Roasties and a merry mix of carrots, peas and Brussel sprouts, followed by snowman ice-cream.

If your child usually has a packed lunch, but would like to enjoy the Christmas lunch, **please add this to your basket on Parent Pay (you should see 'Christmas Lunch for Packed Lunches' as a payment item)**. If your child usually has a school dinner, there is no need to buy this item. For her ordering, Mrs Eglon needs to know numbers as soon as possible, please.

Parents Evening Consultations - week commencing 2nd December

Thank you to everyone for using our online booking system. We have been really pleased with the response! Teachers will ring families on a 'withheld' or 'private' number within (or as closely as possible to) their chosen timeslot.

Home Learning Feedback

We received some great feedback from families about our home learning offer. We have summarised the feedback from Discoverers' families and attached it to the newsletter email. You will see we have made some changes to our policy and approach, in light of the feedback. A big thank you for your support.

Our Christmas Calendar

Earlier in the week, we sent our Christmas calendar of events home. We are excited to celebrate the festive period with you all. On next week's calendar:

- The Year 6 children will be given the task of decorating the school Christmas tree.
- Classes will start enjoying story times around the school tree.
- On Friday, the whole school will complete Christmas decoration crafts. These will include decorations to display around school and near the village's tree.

Next week's lunch menu – Week 1

Monday	Sausage in a homemade roll, ketchup, roast potatoes, peas and cucumber bites, followed by banana sponge and custard
Tuesday	Pasta bolognaise, mixed salad and garlic bread, followed by orange chocolate muffin
Wednesday	Roast chicken, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans and cauliflower with 50/50 bread, followed by oat cookie and orange segment
Thursday	Mexican beef tortilla boat, rice, broccoli and carrots, followed by fruit jelly and ice cream
Friday	Battered fish portion, chips, peas, sweetcorn and wholemeal bread, followed by cheese, crackers and an apple wedge

Due to our kitchen staffing, we will let families know if we are unable to provide the menu as shown above.

Do we have your most up to date contact details?

If you have changed your telephone number or email address (and are on our email system for newsletters) please do let us know, so we can update our records in school. Thank you.

Sleights is a nut free and peanut free school.